INTRODUCTION

FEW hobbies in the world offer as much fun as model railroading. Here, in miniature, are all the color and excitement of real railroading, with speedy passenger trains and fast freights making runs through cities and towns and open countryside.

If you are a beginner in this fascinating pastime and this is your first Lionel outfit you will need a few simple directions to set up your layout and to run your train. The first part of this booklet, "How to Assemble and Operate Your First Lionel Outfit", contains all the directions you need in order to enjoy any simple standard outfit.

If you are like most model railroaders we know you will soon add to your original outfit. Perhaps a pair of switches and some extra track. Maybe a semaphore or a gateman to guard your grade crossing. Then you will need to know something about voltage requirements of various Lionel railroad accessories, about the capacity and limitations of your transformer and the best methods of wiring up your layout and accessories. All this information, in a condensed form, is available in the second part of this booklet "How to Operate Lionel Accessory Railroad Equipment".

The third part of the booklet will help start you off on a project which is the ambition of all model railroaders—"How to Build a Model Railroad". Here is a discussion on how to select a space for a permanent layout; how to design track arrangement to fit the available space; how to construct the framework; how to work out actual railroad problems and how to landscape and decorate your railroad so that it becomes an actual operating railroad in miniature.

Like all fine mechanical equipment, your Lionel outfit deserves good care. If properly cared for, your Lionel equipment will give many years of service and enjoyment. Information that should enable you to find and eliminate trouble spots, to do simple maintenance and to keep your equipment in tip-top condition is contained in the last part of the booklet, "How to Take Care of Lionel Trains". For more serious service and repair problems there is an appendix listing the names and addresses of all Lionel Authorized Service Stations.

PART ONE

HOW TO ASSEMBLE AND OPERATE YOUR FIRST LIONEL OUTFIT

HOW TO ASSEMBLE YOUR LAYOUT

ASSEMBLING THE TRACK

The track supplied with most outfits will make a simple oval layout as shown in Figure 7. The curved sections make up ends of the oval; the straight sections make up the sides. The special Remote Control section used for uncoupling and unloading cars goes on the side of the oval, preferably between two regular straight sections.

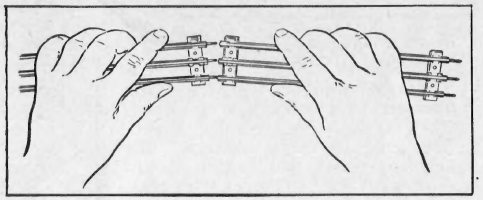

Figure 1—How to Join Track

Join the track by inserting the pins of one track section as far as they will go into the rail openings of the next section. The pins should fit tightly. To hold track sections securely together use connecting clips supplied with the track. "O" type track clips are pushed over the track ties. See Figure 2. Clips for "027" track are hooked on the tie of one section then snapped over the end tie of the next section. See Figure 3.

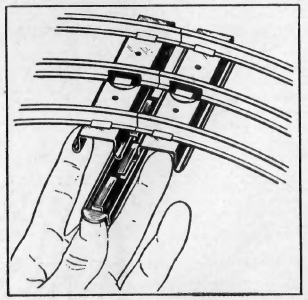

Figure 2—"O" Track Clip

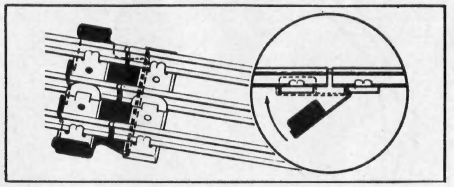

Figure 3—"027" Track Clip

ATTACHING "LOCKON" TO TRACK

After track is assembled, attach the Lockon to a straight track section. This special clip is used for connecting the rails to the transformer. Fit the flange of one of the outside rails into the wide v-shaped notch of the Lockon. Then press the Lockon upward until it snaps onto the center rail. See Figure 4.

Each spring clip on the Lockon is connected to one of the transformer terminals by a piece of copper wire furnished with the outfit. The wires are coiled for convenience only and may be straightened when necessary.

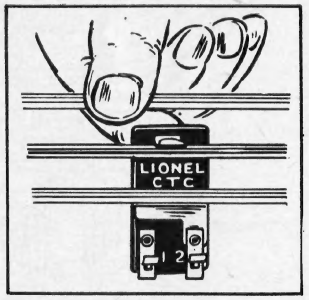

Figure 4—Snap Lockon on Track